

LES
VUES REELLES
ET LE
SYSTEME POLITIQUE
DE LA
REGENCE DE DANEMARC
DEVELOPE'S.

Deduifant les CAUSES de la derniere REVOLUTION
A COPENHAGUE.

Fondés sur des PAPIERS AUTHENTIQUES.

Par CHRISTIERN ADOLPHE ROTHES, *K*

Ci devant Conseiller de Conference, Secrétaire du Cabinet, de
sa Majesté Christiern VII. et Grand Assesseur du Conseil
suprême d'Altena.

Publié originairement en François a Hambourg, et supprimé im-
mediatement par l'Autorité de la Reine Douairiere.

Quis talia fando,
Temperet a lacrymis.

VIRGIL.

A LONDRES: re-imprimé pour S. Bladen, en Paternoster-Row,
1772.

[Prix Deux Chelins.]

LES
VUES REELLES
ET LE
SYSTEME POLITIQUE
DE LA
REGENCE DE DANEMARC
DEVELOPE'S.

Deduifant les CAUSES de la derniere REVOLUTION
A COPENHAGUE.

Fondés sur des PAPIERS AUTHENTIQUES.

Par CHRISTIERN ADOLPHE ROTHES, *K*

Ci devant Conseiller de Conference, Secrétaire du Cabinet, de
sa Majesté Christiern VII. et Grand Assesseur du Conseil
suprême d'Altena.

Publié originairement en François a Hambourg, et supprimé im-
mediatement par l'Autorité de la Reine Douairiere.

Quis talia fando,
Temperet a lacrymis.

VIRGIL.

A LONDRES: re-imprimé pour S. Bladen, en Paternoster-Row,
1772.

[Prix Deux Chelins.]

T H E
R E A L V I E W S
A N D
P O L I T I C A L S Y S T E M
O F T H E
R E G E N C Y O F D E N M A R K
F U L L Y E X P L A I N E D.

Tracing the true CAUSES of the late REVOLUTION at
COPENHAGEN.

Supported by AUTHENTIC PAPERS.

By CHRISTIERN ADOLPHUS ROTHES,

Formerly Counsellor of Conference, Secretary of the Cabinet
of his Majesty Christiern VII. and great Assessor of the su-
preme Council at Altena.

Published originally in French at Hamburgh, and immediately sup-
pressed through the Interest of the Queen Dowager.

With an APPENDIX by the ENGLISH EDITOR.

Quis talia fando
Temperet a lacrymis.

VIRG.

L O N D O N : Re-printed for S. Bladon, in Paternoster-row, 1772.
[Price Two Shillings.]

THE
REAL VIEW
AND
POLITICAL SYSTEM
OF THE
REGENCY OF DENMARK
FULLY EXPLAINED

Tracing the late Career of the late Revolution at

COPIES OF THE PAPER



By CHRISTIAN

Formerly, Comptroller of the Customs, Secretary of the Admiralty, and Member of the Privy Council of Denmark.

London: Printed by J. G. Allen, at the 'Penny Press,' No. 1, St. Paul's Church-yard, 1848.

With an Appendix by the English Editor.

LONDON: Printed by J. G. Allen, at the 'Penny Press,' No. 1, St. Paul's Church-yard, 1848.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following authentic Piece was transmitted from Hamburgh, by an eminent English merchant resident there to his correspondent in England ; and as the latter judged it of too much importance to Europe in general, and this nation in particular, to let it remain suppressed, very few copies having got abroad, he had it translated into English, and now submits it to the impartial public.

LES
VUES REELLES
ET LE
SYSTEME POLITIQUE
DE LA
REGENCE DE DANEMARC
DEVELOPÉS.

A Peine Frederic V. de glorieuse
memoire eut il fermé la paupiere,
que la reine douairiere Julienne Marie,
princesse altiere ambitieuse, intrigante, et
dissimulée conçut le projet inique et te-
meraire d'arracher le sceptre des mains
foibles

THE
REAL VIEWS
AND
POLITICAL SYSTEM
OF THE
REGENCY OF DENMARK
FULLY EXPLAINED.

SCARCE had Frederic, of glorious memory, closed his eye-lids, ere the dowager queen Juliana Maria, a haughty, ambitious, intriguing, and dissimulating princess, planned the bold and iniquitous scheme of snatching the

foibles de Christian VII. dont la jeunesse et la timidité encourageoient les desseins pernicioeux de cette artificieuse manatre. Elle avoit plusieurs fois, même du vivant du feu roi son époux, fait éclater son depit et sa haine contre le prince royal, comme le seul obstacle, qui fermoit a son propre fils Frederic, l'accès du trone auquel elle desiroit passionément de l'élever. Soit crainte ou politique de la part de Christian VII. parvenu a la couronne a l'age de dix sept ans, malgré les dedains de sa belle mere, il eut pour elle la deference, que son rang et son autorité dans le conseil sembloient exiger. La seule occasion ou il temoigna de la fermeté, et refista courageusement a son avis, fut dans le choix de Matilde princesse d'Angleterre,

scepter from the feeble hands of Christian VII. whose youth and timidity forwarded the evil designs of this artful step-mother. She had often, even during the life time of the late king her husband, displayed her contempt and hatred against the prince royal, he being the sole obstacle to her son Frederic's mounting the throne, to which she was passionately disposed to raise him. Whether through fear or policy, when Christian VII. attained the crown at the age of seventeen, notwithstanding the disdain with which his mother-in-law treated him, he paid her all the deference which seemed due to her rank and authority in the council. He never testified his firmness, or resisted courageously to defend his own opinion upon any other occasion, than in the choice of
 Matilda,

gleterre, dont la reine douairiere n'approuvoit ni l'alliance, ni le tems fixé pour cette union, La constitution foible et delicate du jeune monarque qui pourroit mourir fans posterité, si ce mariage étoit differé, étoit le motif secret de son opposition. D'ailleurs elle envisageoit dans la jeune reine, une rivale a l'ascendant qu'elle avoit usurpé sur l'esprit du roi, et au pouvoir qu'elle étoit résolue de maintenir dans le conseil. Elle ne put cacher son ressentiment lorsque la reine Matilde arriva a Copenhague, et parut dans la capitale avec tous les avantages de la jeunesse et de la beauté, au milieu des acclamations unanimes d'un peuple charmé de ses graces et de son affabilité.

Matilda, a princess of England, whilst the queen dowager neither approved the alliance, nor the time fixed for the union. The weak and delicate constitution of the young monarch, who might have quitted this life without posterity, had this marriage been deferred, was the secret motive of her opposition. Moreover she saw in the young queen a rival in the ascendancy she had usurped over the mind of the king, and in the power she had resolved to maintain in the council. She could not conceal her resentment when queen Matilda first arrived at Copenhagen, and appeared in the capital with all the advantages of youth and beauty, amidst the unanimous acclamations of a people delighted with her graces and her affability.

Neither

Ni la prevenance de cette aimable princesse, ni sa figure interessante, ni les égards et l'attention qu'elle temoigna a la reine douairiere, ne furent capables d'adoucir cet esprit hautain et vindicatif. Elle ne rendit jamais a la jeune reine d'autres visites que celles requises par l'etiquette et la bienfiance, la traitant toujours avec une superiorité insultante, affectant de mepriser sa jeunesse et son peu d'esperance et de la mortifier par des reflexions injurieuses a sa nation. Tant de mauvais procedés, et d'affronts reiterés, aux quels le roi parut insensible firent germer dans le cœur de la reine Matilde une impression desavantageuse contre le monarque son epoux, et une aversion contre l'imperieuse douairiere. Elle persuada adroitement au roi nouvellement marié d'abandonner son époux
et

Neither the prepossession this amiable princess inspired in her favour, neither her attracting figure, neither the regard and attention she testified to the queen dowager, could soften this haughty and vindictive spirit. She never paid the young queen any other visits than those prescribed by etiquette and good manners, treating queen Matilda always with an insulting superiority, affecting to despise her youth and her inexperience, and endeavouring to mortify her by injurious reflections upon the English. Such ill-treatment, and repeated affronts, to which the king appeared insensible, first gave the queen a disadvantageous impression of the monarch her husband, and an aversion to the imperious dowager. She artfully persuaded the new-married king to abandon his wife and his dominions

C

to

et ses états a la merci de la dangereuse cabale, quelle avoit déjà formée, sous prétexte d'orner son esprit de connoissances utiles, et d'étendre ses lumieres par ses voyages et ses observations, dans les principales cours de l'Europe. Elle esperoit que son absence étendrait entierement leur affection mutuelle, qu'il n'auroit point d'heritiers pendant cette separation, et que la jeune reine negligée commettrait quelque imprudence, dont la douairiere profiteroit habilement pour censurer sa conduite et faire soupçonner sa vertu. La vivacité, l'enjouement et les manieres libres de Matilde au milieu d'une nation flegmatique et réservée, étoient un heureux presage pour les vues de son ennemie. Excepté le comte Bernstorff (grand homme d'état, que Christian VII. avoit conservé dans ses emplois,

to the mercy of the dangerous cabal, which she had already formed, under pretence of his embellishing his understanding with useful knowledge and instruction, by travel and observation, in visiting the principal courts of Europe. She hoped that his absence would entirely extinguish their mutual affection, that he would have no heirs during this separation, and that the young queen being neglected would commit some imprudent action, of which the dowager might judiciously avail herself, to censure Matilda's conduct, and render her virtue suspected. The vivacity, good-nature, and liberality of Matilda, amidst a phlegmatic and reserved nation, formed a happy presage to the success of her enemy's designs. Except count Bernstorff, (that great statesman, whom Christian VII. had

ploys, et qui avoit forcé la reine douairiere a craindre sa vertu qu'elle n'avoit pu corrompre) presque tous les seigneurs qui accompagnerent le roi étoient des jeunes gens voluptueux effeminés, qui tachoient a l'envi de se distinguer dans l'office de surintendant des menus plaisirs de leur maitre, *moins fait pour plaire aux femmes qu'ambitieux d'en paroître aimé.* La jeune reine delaissée d'un monarque inconsideré qui ne tacha jamais de meriter sa confiance et son estime, et se rendit indigne de son amour par le rapport de ses petites amourettes a Londres et a Paris ; étrangere dans la capitale de ses états tacha de se dedomager de l'ennui et de la contrainte d'une cour triste et presque deserte, par des exercices represents,

par

continued in his employments, and who had compelled the queen-dowager to dread his virtue, which she could not corrupt) there was scarce one among the lords who accompanied the king, who was not a young voluptuary; each endeavouring to outvie the rest by distinguishing himself in the office of superintendant of the pastimes of a prince, *who was less formed to please the ladies, than ambitious to appear their favourite.* The young queen, forsaken by an inconsiderate monarch, who never strove to merit her confidence and esteem, and rendered himself unworthy of her love by the reports of his little intrigues at London and Paris; a stranger in the capital of her dominions, she endeavoured to dissipate the irksomeness and constraint of a melancholy and almost deserted court

par une jalouse surveillante comme incompatible avec la dignité d'une reine et la pudeur d'une femme. Dans ses fréquentes excursions a cheval et ses parties de chasse la Matilde s'habilloit en amazone, cequi offensa le clergé en general ; et comme elle conversoit familièrement avec ceux qui l'accompagnoient dans ces courses, la *pieuse et charitable* Julienne Marie lamentoit avec ses confidens sur l'indiscretion de cette jeune princesse qui avilissoit son anget ternissoit sa reputation, Toutes les modes et tous les usages que la jeune reine avoit introduit a Copenhague estoient exposées a la critique douairiere come bisarres, indecens et ridicules. Elle fit même insinuer au roi, pendant son sejour en Angleterre et en France, que la reine avoit des liaisons

2

trop

court by exercises, represented by a jealous inspector as incompatible with the dignity of a queen, and the modesty of a woman. Matilda in her frequent excursions on horseback and her hunting parties, dressed herself like an amazon, which offended the clergy in general; and as she conversed familiarly with those who accompanied her in these parties, the *pious and charitable* Juliana Maria lamented with her confidants the indiscretion of this young princess, who debased her rank, and tarnished her reputation. All the fashions, and all the customs which this young queen had introduced at Copenhagen, were by the criticism of the dowager represented as fantastical, indecent, and ridiculous. She even insinuated to the king, during his residence in England and France,

that

trop intimes avec quelques uns de ses favoris, et le prince eut la foiblesse de croire ces imputations calomnieuses, loin de punir celle que les avoit inventées.

Quoique la premiere noblesse d'Angleterre eut donné l'exemple a celle de France de fetes les plus brillantes et des repas les plus somptueux au roi de Danemarc, il temoigna beaucoup de partialité, et donna une preference manifeste a cette dernière cour. Il fit present d'un regiment de cavalerie Danoise au fils aîné du duc de Duras, cequi fit dire a la reine son epouse, " Qu'il étoit bon Francois, mais tres mauvais politique." Ce trait lui fut rapporté avec des circonstances plus aggravantes, par les emissaries de la douairiere.

Le

that the queen had connexions that were too close with some of her favourites, and the prince had the weakness to credit these calumnious imputations, so far from punishing the inventress of them.

Although the first nobility in England had set the example to those of France, in the most brilliant feasts, and the most sumptuous repasts given to the king of Denmark, he testified great partiality, and gave a manifest preference to the last court. He gave a regiment of Danish cavalry to the duke of Duras's son, which made the queen, his wife, say, "He was a very good Frenchman, but a very bad politician." This stroke of humour was communicated to him with many aggravating circumstances by the emissaries of the dowager.

D

Upon

Le jeune roi de retour dans ses états, prevenu injustement contre la reine au lieu de temoigner de l'empressement a la revoir l'irrita par son indifferance et sa froideur. La douairiere affecta la joie : la plus vive et la plus sincere : elle le congratula au nom de tous les bon patriotes Danois qui s'etoient retirés sur leurs terres pendant son absence, affin de se soustraire aux insultes des favoris de la jeune reine. Toutes ces insinuations fausse et malicieuses alienèrent le roi de plus en plus de son aimable innocente épouse, qui se voisoit environnée d'espions devoués aux desseins sinistres d'une femme intrigante et perfide comme elle desiroit seule de diriger les conseils du roi, affin d'aneantir son autorité elle vit d'un oeil jaloux la haute faveur donc jouissoit le come de Holke, et la con-

Upon the young king's return to his dominions, unjustly prejudiced against the queen, instead of testifying his fondness at their first meeting, he irritated her by his indifference and his coolness. The dowager affected the most lively and sincere joy : she congratulated him in the name of all good Danish patriots, who had retired to their estates during his absence, to avoid the insults of the favourites of the young queen. All these false and malicious insinuations alienated the king's affections still more from his amiable spouse, who saw herself surrounded with spies devoted to the sinister designs of an intriguing and perfidious woman. As her desire was to govern alone the king's councils, in order to destroy Matilda's authority, she saw with a jealous eye the high favour in which

fiance dont le roi honoroit les compagnons, de ses voyages. A force de manœuvres secretes, elle fit disgracier et exiler dans leurs terres, les comtes Holke, Moltke, Thott, Reventlau, les barons de Schimmelmon et de Bulow, et monsieur de Rosencrantz, qui furent tous obligés de se demettre de leurs emplois sans pension au grand étonnement de toute la nation, sans que les motifs d'un changement si inopiné fussent rendus publics. Dans ces circonstances le general Philosophow, ministre de Russie, quitta la cour sans prendre congé. On attribua tous ces changemens a l'ascendant des conseils de la France : effectivement la reine douairiere est entierement devouée à cette cour, dont le ministre est reçu d'elle avec la distinction la plus flatteuse.

Holke was held, and the confidence with which the king honoured the companions of his travels. By means of secret manœuvres, counts Holke, Moltke, Thott, and Reventlau, and barons de Schimmelmon and de Bulow, and monsieur de Rosencrantz, were disgraced, and banished to their estates, after being compelled to quit their employs, unpensioned, to the great astonishment of the whole nation, without the motives of such an expected change being made public. In this situation general Philosophow, the Russian minister, quitted the court, and did not take leave. All these changes were attributed to the councils of France : in effect, the queen dowager is entirely devoted to that court, and the French minister is received by her with the most flattering distinctions.

Count

Le comte de Bernstoff, secrétaire d'état
 reveré du feu roi et de toute la nation,
 dont la pénétration, la sagacité et l'ex-
 perience dans les affaires, avoient jusqu'à
 lors triomphé des petites ruses et des
 complots de la reine douairiere, recût
 ordre de resigner ses emplois avec per-
 mission de se retirer a Hambourg, ou il
 est mort dernièrement. Voici une exacte
 copie de la lettre qu'il écrivit au baron
 de Bulow, au sujet de sa demission. L'ori-
 ginal est en Allemand,

“ Mon cher baron,

“ Il ya long tems que j'ai prévu les
 changemens soudains qui sont arrivés.
 Ce n'est que le prelude d'une revolution
 plus fatale, dont tout l'Europe serae tonée.
 La foiblesse du jeune roi, l'imprudence
 de

Count Bernstoff, secretary of state, who was revered by the late king and the whole nation, whose penetration, sagacity, and experience in state affairs, had till then triumphed over the little artifices and stratagems of the queen dowager, received orders to resign his employments, with permission to retire to Hamburgh, where he lately died. The following is an exact copy of a letter which he wrote to baron de Bulow, with regard to his dismissal. The original is in German.

“ My dear baron,

“ I have for a long time foreseen the sudden changes which have now taken place ; this is only the prelude to a revolution still more fatal, which will astonish all Europe. The weakness of the young
king,

de la reine, et l'ambition demesurée de l'artificieuse douairiere, precipitoient la famille regnante et peutêtre leur posterité dans les plus afreux revers. Je plains le monarque, j'ai pitié de son épouse, et je deteste les maximes de *Julienne la Machiaveliste*. Je vous felicite aussi bien que moi de vivre dans la retraite, a l'abri de l'orage terrible qui se prepare. Graces a Dieu je ne suis pas dans le secret, mais je fais que la douairiere est capable de tout sacrifier a l'avancement de son cher Frederic. C'est une mechante femme qui ne caresse que pour trahir, et n'offre ses bons offices, que pour parvenir a ses fins. Vous avés été long tems la dupe, et moi l'antagoniste de ses conseils. Elle a deja gagné le clergé par son hypocrisie, je crains quelle ne seduise
le

king, the imprudence of the queen, and the unlimited ambition of the artful dowager, will precipitate the reigning family, and perhaps their posterity, into the most dreadful calamities. I am sorry for the monarch, I pity his consort, and detest the maxims of *Juliana the Machiavelist*. I congratulate you as well as myself upon our living in retirement, safe from the terrible storm that is gathering. Thank God I am not in the secret, but I know that the dowager is capable of sacrificing every thing to the advancement of her dear Frederic. She is a wicked woman, who caresses only to betray, and offers her good offices only to attain her own ends. You have long been the dupe, and I the antagonist of her counsels. She has already gained over the clergy by her hypocrisy: I fear

E

she

le militaire en leur inspirant du mepris pour leur souverain. Adieu, mon cher ami, vivés heureux et tranquille comme moi. Je suis tres sincerement votre ferviteur et fidelle ami,

A Hambourg,

ce 24 Mars, 1771.

BERNSTOFF.

La revolution du 17 Janvier a verifié la prediction de ce sage politique.

Il n'y eut que le docteur Struensee, qu'elle ne put malgré toutes ses cabales écarter de la cour, ou il etoit également cheri et estimé du roi et de la reine. Son intelligence dans la medicine et dans la chimie, engagea le roi a son passage a Altena, ou il exercoit sa profession, a le prendre a sa suite. Il fut ensuite nommé medicin du roi, et assista la reine dans
I ses

she will seduce the military, by inspiring them with contempt for their sovereign. Adieu, my dear friend, live happy in tranquility like me. I am, most sincerely, your servant and faithful friend,

Hamburgh,

March 24, 1771.

BERNSTOFF.

The revolution of the 17th of January has verified the prediction of this wise politician.

In despite of all her cabals, Dr. Struensee was the only person she could banish from court, where he was equally cherished by the king and the queen. His skill in medicine and chemistry, induced the king, when he passed through Altena, where he exercised his profession, to take him in his train. He was afterwards appointed physician to the king,

E 2

and

ses accouchemens, il est d'une honnête famille quoique plébeienne, et son pere est le premier ecclesiastique du duché d'Holstein, ou il jouit de beaucoup de consideration. Il étoit réservé pour un monument le plus terrible de la vengeance implacable de la reine douairiere ; élevé subitement au faite des grandeurs, pour être ignominieusement trainé dans un-cachot, chargé de fers, et expirer sur un échaffaut. La jeune reine qui commençoit a se defier des desseins pernicieux de Julienne, tacha de la prevenir en forment sa cour de nouvelles creatures, la plupart gens de fortune, sans credit ni alliances dans l'état, intrigans sans être politiques, insolens dans la prospérité, arrogans de leur pouvoir, avec un genie borné et des talens mediocres, ils ne s'occupèrent qu'a piller l'état et

en

and assisted the queen when she lay-in. He is of an honest, though plebeian family, and his father is the first ecclesiastic of the duchy of Holstein, where he is much esteemed. He seemed destined to be sacrificed to the implacable vengeance of the queen dowager; suddenly elevated to the pinnacle of greatness, to be ignominiously dragged to a dungeon, and there loaded with chains, to expire upon a scaffold. The young queen, who began to suspect the designs of Juliana, endeavoured to prevent their effect in forming a new court of creatures, mostly soldiers of fortune, without credit or alliances in the state, intriguing without being politicians, insolent in prosperity, and arrogant of their power: with a confined genius, and indifferent talents, they only endeavoured to pillage
the

en accumulant sur leurs familles indigentes une fortune rapide, ces étrangers parvenus devinrent, par leur imprudence et leurs exactions, odieux aux anciennes familles du royaume. Le malheur de Matilde fut son manque de discernement dans le choix de ses adherens. C'est cette erreur de jugement qui a causé tous ses defastres.

Pendant tous ces changemens que la douairiere attribuoit aux caprices et a l'ambition de la jeune reine le roi s'occupoit des plans les plus utiles pour la prosperité de son peuple, et la police interieur du royaume. Il fit batir un hopital royal, qui sert d'azyle aux soldats infirmes et veterans ; il encourageoit l'agriculture, le commerce, et les manufactures, et afin d'instruire ses sujets, et d'etendre

the state, and in accumulating to their indigent families a rapid fortune, these upstarts became, by their imprudence and scandalous exactions, odious to the ancient families of the kingdom. It was a misfortune for Matilda that she wanted discernment in the choice of her adherents: to this error in judgment may be ascribed all her calamities.

Whilst these changes were taking place, which the dowager attributed to the caprices and ambition of the young queen, the king was engaged in the pursuit of the most useful plans for the prosperity of his people, and the internal police of the kingdom. He erected a royal hospital, which served as an asylum to veteran and invalid soldiers; he encouraged agriculture, commerce, and manufactures; and in order to in-

struct

d'étendre leurs connoissances, il ordonna par un edit que tous les ouvrages publiés dans ses états seroient a l'avenir exempts de censure.

Ce jeune monarque actif et vigilant a reformer tous les abus de l'administration, tomba tout a coup dans une langueur et une espece d'imbecillité, dont on ne devina pas d'abord la veritable cause. Struensée qui de premier médecin de la famille royale, avoit été crée comte et injudicieusement élevé au rang de premier ministre, inspira naturellement de l'envie aux grands du royaume, a qui la douairière suggera que cet étranger dont le système étoit d'avilir la noblesse, et d'introduire dans les premières charges de l'état, des gens obscurs comme lui, devoit cette élévation suprenante a la
pre-

struct his subjects, and extend their knowledge, he ordered that for the future literary productions should be exempt from censure.

This young monarch, active and vigilant in reforming all the abuses of administration, fell suddenly into a state of languor, and a kind of imbecillity, the true cause of which could not at first be traced. Struensee, who after being first physician to the royal family, was created count, and injudiciously raised to the rank of first minister, naturally excited the envy of the nobility of the kingdom, to whom the dowager suggested that this foreigner, whose system was to abase the nobility, and to introduce into the first employments of the state, low people like himself, owed his astonishing elevation to the scandalous

F

pre-

predilection scandaleuse de la reine, qui detestoit dans son ame les Danois, deshonoroit par sa conduite licentieuse l'état et le roi sembloit déterminée à gouverner sans contrôle avec ses indignes favoris. L'inaction et la stupidités du roi, servirent à confirmer les soupçons les plus injuste et les plus atroces contre Struensee, à qui l'on imputa le crime horrible d'avoir donné au jeune monarque des poisons qui avoient énérvé, sa vigueur et aliéné son esprit ; de là ces irregularités et ces honteuses debauches, qui en exposant le souverain au mépris de ses sujets, le rendoient passif à l'égard des excès de la jeune reine et des crimes de ses créatures.

Ces

predilection of the queen, who in her heart detested the Danes, dishonored, by her licentious conduct, the state and the king, and seemed determined to govern without controul with her unworthy favourites. The inert stupidity of the king was a confirmation of the most unjust and atrocious suspicions against Struensee, who was accused of the horrid crime of having administered to the young monarch poison, which had enervated his vigour, and disordered his mind; to this cause were ascribed those irregularities and scandalous debaucheries, which exposed him to the contempt of his subjects, and rendered him passive with respect to the excesses of the young queen, and the crimes of her creatures.

Ces insinuations, repandues adroitement dans la capitale, firent sur le militaire et la bourgeoisie l'impression que la douairiere avoit prévu. Elle avoit eu l'art d'attacher a son parti les comtes Tott et Osten, les colonels Koller, Schaffer, et tous les commissaires qui ont été dans la suite chargés d'instruire le procès de la reine et des autre prisonniers. Le comte Rantzaw qui jouissoit de la plus haute consideration dans l'armée et parmi le peuple, avoit été fondé par la reine douairiere au sujet de la grande revolution qu'elle meditoit ; mais quoi qu'il se fut ouvertement déclaré contre le premier ministre et ses adherens, sa fierté naturelle lui fit refuser d'abord d'entrer dans une conspiration, ou il n'auroit joué qu'un second rolle ; d'ailleurs il agissoit par des principes bien differens de
ceux

These insinuations, artfully propagated in the capital, made the desired impression upon the military and traders. The dowager had the art of uniting to her party the counts Tott and Osten, colonels Koller, Scheffer, and all the commissaries, who were afterwards appointed to draw up the accusations against the queen, and other prisoners. Count Rantzaw, who was in the highest esteem of the army and the people, had been artfully interrogated by the queen dowager with respect to the great revolution she had in meditation; but though he had openly declared himself against the first minister and his partizans, his natural pride made him immediately refuse to enter into a conspiracy in which he would have played only a second part: moreover he acted upon principles very dif-

ceux de la reine douairiere ; son plan étoit de rendre la liberté a ses compatriotes et de retablir les anciennes loix en limitant la prerogative du souverain. Il avoit communiqué son projet au ministre de Suede, qui en avoit donné avis a sa cour, mais soit que l'alliance entre les deux cours, cimentée par le mariage du roi de Suede avec la princesse royale de Danemarc empêchat cette puissance d'entrer dans des engagemens préjudiciables a la famille regnante de Danemarc ; ou que la Suede ne pensât pas qu'il fut de son interet de contribuer a affranchir les Danois de leur servitude elle resolut de demeurer spectatrice indifferente des troubles de Danemarc. Le comte Rantzau avoit même pris sur lui de faire épouser au roi de Denemarc la princesse de Suede, après son divorce avec la jeune reine.

Ce

different from those of the queen dowager; his plan was to procure his countrymen liberty, and to restore the ancient laws in limiting the prerogative of the sovereign. He communicated his scheme to the Swedish minister, who informed his court of it; but whether the alliance between the two courts, cemented by the marriage of the king of Sweden with the princess royal of Denmark, prevented this power to enter into engagements pernicious to the reigning family; or that Sweden did not think it her interest to contribute to free the Danes from their servitude, she resolved to remain a mere spectator of the troubles of Denmark. Count Rantzaw had even taken upon himself to engage the king in a matrimonial alliance with the princess of Sweden after his being divorced

Cependant la reine douairiere continua de traiter le comte Rantzau, avec une distinction marquée, crainte de desobliger un homme dont le credit et la reputation pouvoient nuire ou servir l'un et l'autre parti. Les ministres de France et de Prusse étoient certainement dans le secret de la douairiere, mais leurs cours avoient des menagemens a garder vis a vis de l'Angleterre, de sorte qu'ils étoient forcés d'agir sourdement et avec circonspection.

Il est plus que probable que la reine douairiere elle même étoit coupable des crimes énormes, dont elle eut la mechanceté d'accuser Struensee. Son projet diabolique qu'elle a en partie executé a été depuis long tems de rendre le roi meprisable, et la reine odieuse a leurs sujets.

forced from the young queen. The queen dowager, nevertheless, treated count Rantzaw with particular distinction, fearful of disobliging a man whose credit and reputation might hurt or serve either party. The French and Prussian ministers were certainly in the dowager's secret; but their courts had terms to keep with England, which obliged them to act with secrecy and circumspection.

It is more than probable, that the queen dowager herself was guilty of the enormous crimes of which she had the wickedness to accuse Struensee. Her diabolical project, which she has partly executed, has been for a long time to make the king appear contemptible, and the queen odious to their subjects; to tarnish the reputation of this amiable and inno-

G

cent

jets ; de fletrir la reputation de cette aimable et innocente princesse par les calomnies les plus noires ; de faire perir par un poison lent le roi son beau fils, d'aneantir la famille royale après avoir fait declarer le jeune prince hereditaire et la princesse illegitimes, et de placer enfin son propre fils sur le trone rendu vacant a force de forfaits.

Il est surprenant que les ministres d'Angleterre, qui comme tous leurs collegues, sont des espions privilegies, n'avoient prevu et donne avis a leur cour des intrigues dangereuses de la reine Julienne.

Struensee étoit certainement meilleur courtisan qu'homme d'etat. Sa trop grande securité, et son manque de prevoyance l'ont perdu. Il n'est pas douteux que la jeune reine n'eut pour lui une estime particuliere, et une grande confiance dans son

cent princess by the blackest calumnies ; to make the king her son-in-law perish by a slow poison ; to annihilate the royal family, after having declared the young prince hereditary, and the princess illegitimate ; and, in fine, to place her own son upon the throne, when it became vacant, by the foulest crimes.

It is surprising that the English ministers, who like all their colleagues are privileged spies, had not foreseen and given advice to their courts of the dangerous intrigues of queen Juliana.

Struensee was certainly a better courtier than a statesman. His too great security, and his want of foresight, have been his destruction. It is not to be doubted that the young queen entertained a particular esteem for him, and a high opinion of his medical skill. She often

son habileté comme médecin. Elle lui parloit frequemment sans reserve et sans contrainte ; et il étoit tres facile pour une femme rusée et intrigante de prendre avantage de ces conversations familières quoiqu' innocentes, pour perdre cette charmante et infortunée princesse.

Quoique le ministère de Struensee ait été traduit au public avec les plus noires couleurs ; il avoit issu des ordonnances qui devoient être perpétuées pour la fureté des citoyens et le bonheur des generations futures. Avant lui les habitants de Copenhague étoient sujets a la plus severe inspection de la police, qui entroit par force dans leurs maisons a toute heure de nuit et de jour. Il ordonna que dans la suite personne feroit inquieté dans sa maison excepté les maifaites.

Le

conversed with him, laying aside reserve and constraint; and it was very easy for an artful and intriguing woman to take advantages of these familiar, though innocent conversations, to ruin this charming, unfortunate princess.

Though Struensee's administration has been traduced to the public, and represented in the blackest colours, he had issued ordonnances which should be perpetuated for the security of the citizens, and the benefit of future generations. Before his time the inhabitants of Copenhagen were subject to the most rigid inspection of the police, who forcibly entered their houses at all hours of the night or day. He ordered that for the future no person should be disturbed in their houses except criminals.

Pre-

Le préjugé général avoit attaché une telle infamie aux veuves, aux filles incontinentes et aux enfans nés hors l'état de mariage, qu'elles détruisoient souvent le fruit de leurs amours honteux. Pour empêcher ces crimes et ces abus, le comte Struensee publia un édit qui défendoit à l'avenir sous peine d'amende tout reproche quelconque à ces objets de compassion et d'humanité, et déclaroit les batards capables de succéder aux biens de leurs parens, au défaut d'enfans légitimes.

Ces édits salutaires et ces sages ordonnances ont été abolis depuis la dernière révolution. On a même fait un crime au malheureux Struensee de publier ses édits en Allemand qui a toujours été la langue de la cour et du cabinet.

Si

Prejudice had stamp'd such a badge of infamy upon widows, girls who had strayed from the rigid paths of virtue, and children born out of the pale of matrimony, that they often destroyed the fruits of their lawless love: to prevent these crimes, and remedy these abuses, count Struensee published an edict, which inflicted severe penalties on any one who reproached these objects of compassion and humanity, and declared bastards capable of succeeding to the fortunes of their fathers, in default of legitimate heirs.

These salutary edicts, and these wise regulations, have been abolished since the late revolution. It has even been imputed to the unfortunate Struensee as a crime to publish his edicts in German, which has ever been the language of the court and the cabinet. Had

Si les conjures avoient suivi implicitement les ordres de la douairière impatiente d'accomplir ses projets iniques, elle auroit anticipé de six mois la révolution du 17 Janvier. Ce jour fatal fut enfin fixé qui devoit anéantir l'autorité du roi deshonoré à jamais une jeune princesse sœur et femme de rois, dégrader avec infamie sa postérité et rendre detestables aux crédules et stupides danois les prétendus complices de ses crimes et de ses erreurs.

La réforme du régiment des gardes que le roi par un principe d'économie fut persuadé de faire quelques semaines auparavant, en exposant la faiblesse et la timidité du monarque, servit à rendre Struensée encore plus odieux à l'armée. La douairière profita habilement de cette

Had the conspirators implicitly obeyed the orders of the dowager, impatient to accomplish her iniquitous schemes, she would have anticipated by six months the revolution of the 17th of January. The fatal day was at length fixed upon, which was to abolish the king's authority, for ever dishonour a young princess, the sister and wife of kings, infamously degrade her posterity, and make the credulous and stupid Danes view with detestation the supposed accomplices of her crimes and errors.

The disbanding of the regiment of guards, which measure the king, thro' a principle of œconomy, was persuaded to adopt some weeks before, whilst it exposed the weakness and timidity of the monarch, tended to make Struensee still more odious to the army. The dowager

H artfully

conjoncture pour decrier son administration, et le représenter comme l'ennemi de tous ceux à qui la garde de sa majesté étoit confiée. Quoique le fait est qu'affin de retrencher les dépenses de l'état, Struensee avoit proposé de substituer aux gardes, les regimens qui étoient en garnison à Copenhague.

Le comte Rantzaw après avoir tenté inutilement d'être chef de son parti se rendit aux sollicitations pressantes de la reine douairière, et se chargea à sa requi-sition, d'arrêter la reine et de la conduire au château de Cronembourg.

La jeune reine n'ignoroit pas la mauvaise disposition de la douairière à son égard ; mais elle n'étoit pas assés en garde contre ses menées et ses artifices :

Struensee

artfully availed herself of this event to censure his administration, and represent him as the enemy of those who were entrusted with guarding his majesty's person. But the fact really is, that in order to diminish the expences of the state, Struensee proposed to substitute in the place of the guards, such regiments as were in garrison at Copenhagen.

Count Rantzaw, after having fruitlessly attempted to be the chief of his party, yielded to the importunate solicitations of the queen dowager, and took upon him, at her request, to arrest the queen, and conduct her to the castle of Cronenburgh.

The young queen was not ignorant of the ill-will which the dowager bore her ; but she was not sufficiently upon her guard against her stratagems and ar-

Struensee avoit negligé de faire observer, la perfide Julienne et ses emissaires; si l'eut fait arrêter et conduire en lieu de sûreté cet acte d'autorité auroit intimidé ses ennemis, et la sanction du roi qu'il auroit aisément obtenue l'eut sauvé de tout reproche, de violence et d'injustice.

La conjuration du dix Sept. fut conduite avec un secret impenetrable. Un bal masqué fut le prelude de cette catastrophe. Jusqu'au moment que la reine le comte Struensee, et son frere, le comte de Brandt, le general Gahlen, et son épouse qui avoit joué ce soir la avec le roi, le lieutenant-general Hesselberg, le general Gude, le baron de Bulow, le secretaire d'état Zoega, Mr. Panin, &c. furent
arrestés,

tifices. Struensee had neglected to make her observe the perfidious conduct of Juliana and her emissaries. Had he ordered Juliana to be seized, and conducted to a place of safety, this bold act would have intimidated his enemies, and the sanction of the king, which he could easily have obtained, would have secured him from all reproach, all violence, and injustice.

The conspiracy of the 17th was conducted with impenetrable secrecy. A masked ball was the prelude to this catastrophe. Till the very moment that the queen, count Struensee, his brother, count de Brandt, general Gahlen and his wife, who played that evening with the king, lieutenant-general Hesselberg, general Gude, baron de Bulow, the secretary of state Zoega, Mr. Panin, &c. were

arretés, personne n'avoit eu le moindre soupçon d'un événement si étrange. Le prince Frederic, frere du roi, étoit retiré du bal vers les onze heures, afin de concerter avec sa mere les mesures qui devoient assurer le succès de cet attentat. Lorsque la jeune reine et ses partisans furent saisis, le roi fut forcé de signer l'ordre de leur emprisonnement, en cas de refus il eut été dethroné, et sa vie même étoit en danger. Afin d'irriter la populace contre ces illustres coupables, la reine douairiere paya quelques misérables, qui crioient justice contre la reine et son amant Struensee, *Vivat regina Juliana, &c.* Dans les premiers mouvemens l'aveugle multitude se porta aux derniers excès et éclata en invectives contre l'infortunée Matilde, accusée hautement d'adultere

were arrested, no one had the least suspicion of so strange an event. Prince Frederic, brother to the king, had retired from the ball about eleven o'clock, in order to concert with his mother the necessary measures to secure the success of this extraordinary attempt. When the young queen and her partizans were seized, the king was compelled to sign the order for their imprisonment. In case he had refused, he would have been dethroned, and even his life would have been in danger. In order to excite the populace against these illustrious culprits, the queen dowager hired some wretches to cry out justice against the queen, and her lover Struensee, *Vivat regina Juliana*, &c. In their first emotions the blind multitude went to the greatest excesses, and broke out in invectives against the unfortunate

Matilda,

d'adultere et de crimes enormes contre l'etat et le roi. Le comte Rantzaw, même en usant de violence vers la reine pretendoit se faire un merite de la soustraire a la fureur du peuple. Cette jeune victime devouée a une furie implacable dans ses haines temoigna une fortitude admirable dans ce terrible revers. Le senat corrompu par la rusée douairiere, sans aucune forme de procès, la declara coupable d'adultere et d'avoir empoisonné le roi son epoux et l'alloit condamner a mort, si Mr. Keith, ministre d'Angleterre n'avoit protesté solennellement contre tout acte de violence dont la personne de la reine sembloit menacée ; il supporta avec un courage digne de son caractère l'innocence opprimée et refuta avec beaucoup d'energie ses accusateurs

finissant

Matilda, loudly accused her of adultery, and enormous crimes against the state and the king. Count Rantzaw, even in using violence towards the queen, pretended to make a merit of withdrawing her from the rage of the people. This young victim, devoted to an implacable fury, displayed an admirable fortitude in this terrible dilemma. The senate, corrupted by the crafty dowager, without any form of trial, declared her guilty of adultery, and of poisoning the king her husband; and would have condemned her to death, if Mr. Keith, the English minister, had not solemnly protested against all acts of violence, with which the person of the queen seemed to be threatened. He bravely vindicated oppressed innocence in a manner worthy of his character, refuted with much energy her accusers, and con-

I

cluded

finissant par denoncer la vengeance de sa nation, et le bombardement de Copenhague, si on ne rendoit pas justice a la soeur de son souverain. Ces menaces suspendirent l'effet immediat de cette sentence inouïe. Peu de jours après la captivité de la reine a Cronembourg ou el e a été traitée avec la plus grande indignité, par une soldatesque irritée, la fureur du peuple se convertit en pitié pour une princesse, dont la malheureuse destinée fut enfin attribuée a la cruelle politique d'une mechante femme. Son fils Frederic fut nommé chef du conseil. Le roi a la discretion de sa maratre, n'exerca plus aucun acte de souveraineté, les ordres qu'il signoit n'avoient de force qu'autant qu'ils étoient ratifiés par le nouveau conseil de Julienne. Tout accès & toute correspondance avec son epouse

cluded with denouncing the vengeance of his nation, and the bombardment of Copenhagen, if justice was not done to the sister of his sovereign. These menaces suspended the immediate unparalleled effect of this sentence. A few days after the captivity of the queen at Cronenburgh, where she was treated with the greatest indignity by an incensed soldiery, the fury of the people was converted into pity for a princess, whose unhappy fate was at length attributed to the cruel politics of a wicked woman. Her son Frederic was appointed chief of the council. The king, at the discretion of his step-mother, no longer exercised any act of sovereignty; the orders which he signed had no force, till they were ratified by Juliana's new council. He was not allowed any access and correspondence with his

épouse infortunée lui furent interdits il souscrivit a l'humiliation d'être avec la reine jugé par ses sujets.

Les Struensées et le comte de Brandt exposés a la derision et aux outrages de la plus vile canaille, étoient conduits en triomphe au tribunal de leurs juges impitoyables. Lassés de les interroger en vain, ils les menacèrent des terreurs de la torture, dont les tourmens affreux extorquerent d'eux la confession de crimes qu'ils n'avoient jamais commis. Un scelerat nommé Gronintet, qui a l'instigation de la reine douairière, étoit insinué dans les bonnes grâces du comte Struensée et trahissoit sa confiance fut arrêté et mis au fers afin d'en imposer au public. Il produisit quelques lettres falsifiées

unfortunate wife, and he subscribed to the humiliating condition of being, with his queen, tried by his subjects.

The Struensees, and the count de Brandt, exposed to the derision and the outrages of the vilest of mobs, were conducted in triumph to the tribunal of their merciless judges. Tired with fruitless interrogations, they threatened them with the terrors of the torture, whose excruciating torments extorted from the Struensees a confession of crimes that they had never committed. A villain named Gronintet, who at the instigation of the queen dowager, had insinuated himself into the good graces of count Struensee, and betrayed his confidence, was arrested and put in chains, in order to impose upon the public. He produced some fictitious letters, which indicated

sifiées qui indiquoient un commerce criminel entre le comte et la jeune reine, et il eut l'effronterie d'affurer qu'il avoit été plus d'une fois témoin oculaire de leurs familiarités indecentes, il fut d'abord élargi et reçut une somme considérable pour prix de son imposture et de sa perfidie.

La reine douairière afin d'inspirer des sentimens favorables de sa clemence, et de l'équité des commissaires qu'elle a constitués pour le jugement des criminels a fait rendre la liberté a plusieurs personnes qui étoient soupçonnées d'attachement au nouveau ministère,

Elle fit publier dans la capitale et circuler dans le royaume, une lettre qu'elle avoit dictée au roi conçue en tels termes qu'il étoit persuadé de l'infidélité de la reine et des crimes imputés a Struensee.

indicated a criminal commerce between the count and the young queen; and having the effrontery to declare he had been an ocular witness of their indecent familiarities, he was immediately set at liberty, and received a considerable sum as the price of his imposture and treachery.

The queen dowager in order to inspire a favourable opinion of her clemency, and of the equity of the commissioners whom she had appointed for the trial of the criminals, set many persons at liberty who had been suspected of an attachment to the new minister.

She ordered a letter, which she had dictated to the king, to be published and circulated in the capital, and throughout the kingdom: this letter was conceived in such terms as to insinuate he was persuaded of the infidelity of the queen, and
the

Comme elle avoit le clergé a sa devotion elle chargea les ecclesiastiques qui avoient le plus de celebrite dans l'eloquence de la chaire de fulminer contre la licence et la debauche de la cour de la reine Matilde, traitant d'impies et de blasphemateurs les ministres disgraciés et rendant graces au tout puissant de lesavoir delivrés sous les heureux auspices de la reine Julienne, de l'oppression de ces ennemis de la religion et de l'etat.

Elle eut la cruauté d'insulter aux malheurs de la reine dans sa prison, en designant deux ecclesiastiques, pour prêcher alternativement devant elle et l'exhorter a consacrer le reste de ses jours a pleurer ses crimes et ses erreurs.

Depuis que la partie sensée de la nation s'est appercüe de ses vues sinistres, et de ses projets criminels, elle a affecté
beaucoup

the crimes imputed to Struensee. As she had the clergy at her devotion, she commanded those who were the most celebrated for their eloquence in the pulpit to fulminate against the licentiousness and debauchery of queen Matilda's court; treating as impious blasphemers the disgraced ministers, at the same time returning thanks to the Almighty for having delivered them, under the happy auspices of queen Juliana, from the oppression of these enemies to religion and the state.

She had the cruelty to insult the misfortunes of the queen whilst immured, in appointing two ecclesiastics to preach alternately before her, exhorting her to consecrate the rest of her days to expiate her crimes and her errors.

Since the sensible part of the nation have discovered her sinister views, and her

K

criminal

beaucoup de moderation et d'indifference pour le gouvernement des affaires. Cette decouverte l'a empechée d'attenter aux jours de la famille royale, et les Gazettes étrangères qui l'accusoient de ce dessein, l'ont effectivement empeché de l'exécuter, en devinant ses mauvaises intentions.

Enfin elle a poussé l'hypocrisie et la dissimulation au point de publier qu'elle souhaittoit que le tribunal établi pour instruire le procès de la reine la declarat innocente ; et pour en imposer au public elle a avisé le roi d'employer dans cette importante cause le celebre avocat Uldahl, et de le relever de son serment affin de plaider en sa faveur, avec toute l'éloquence dont il est capable. On n'est pas la dupe de cet artifice ; quiconque connoit

criminal projects, she has affected great moderation and indifference to obtain the government of affairs. The discovery has prevented her attempting to shorten the days of the royal family, and the foreign Gazettes, which accused her of this design, have effectually prevented her carrying it into execution, by pointing out her evil intentions.

In fine, she has carried hypocrisy and dissimulation so far as to declare publicly that she wished that the tribunal instituted to prosecute the queen would declare her innocent; and in order to impose upon the public, she advised the king to engage the celebrated advocate Uldahl in this important cause, and to absolve him of his oath, that he might plead in her favour with all the eloquence of which he is master. But the

noit les principes et les vues de l'avocat du roi, fait qu'il est l'ame du parti de la reine douairiere. Si son eloquence et la force de ses raisonnemens specieuse ne peuvent pas la sauver, toute la nation la croira coupable. Tel est le monologue de cette megere.

Effectivement la belle declamation de Mr. Uldahl, et toute sa rethorique n'ont servi qu'a constater des crimes supposés, et a couvrir d'infamie la malheureuse reine. Toutes ses accusations sont a peine des indices ; il n'y a aucune preuve de son infidelité envers le roi, autrement elle eut été dégradée et punie de mort, et ses enfans declarés batards. La crainte du juste resentment du roi son frere et d'une nation genereuse tou-

world will not be duped by this artifice : whoever is acquainted with the principles and views of the king's advocate, knows that he is the soul of the queen dowager's party. If his eloquence and the force of his specious reasonings cannot save her, the whole nation will think her guilty. Such is the soliloquy of this shrew.

Indeed the florid declaration of Mr. Uldhl, and all his rhetoric, have only served to confirm imaginary crimes, and to cover with infamy the unhappy queen. All the accusations against her are scarce indications ; there is no proof of her infidelity towards the king, she would else have been degraded and punished with death, and her children declared illegitimate. The dread of the just resentment of the king her brother, and
of

jours prête a secourir l'innocence opprimée d'une princesse nourrie et élevée dans son sein, avoit engagé l'impitoyable douairiere, a commuer sa premiere sentence dans une prison perpetuelle aux extremités des deserts glacés de Jutland.

L'auteur de cette narration connoit depuis long tems la reine douairiere et ses vils artifices. Il espere qu'il ya encore assés de vertu en Angleterre pour la faire repentir de ses crimes, et de ses cruautés; a l'égard d'une des plus aimables et des plus accomplies princesses de l'Europe, condamnée a l'age de vingt et un an par une faction corrompue a vieillir dans un cachot.

Je conclus en affirmant, que la reine Matilde est innocente malgré, le jugement pervers de juges iniques et corrompus.

Je

of a generous nation ever ready to succour the oppressed innocence of a princess born and educated in her bosom, had induced the merciless dowager to commute her first sentence to perpetual imprisonment to the extremities of the frozen deserts of Jutland.

The author of this narrative has for a long time known the queen dowager and her vile artifices. He hopes there is still virtue enough in England, to make her repent of her crimes, and her cruelties, with respect to one of the most amiable and accomplished princesses in Europe, condemned at the age of twenty-one by a corrupt faction to languish in a dungeon.

I shall conclude with affirming, that queen Matilda is innocent, notwithstanding the sentence of iniquitous and corrupt judges.

I de-

Je defie la reine douairiere, toute hypocrite et diffimulée qu'elle, est de prouver le contraire de ce que j'ai avancé a son prejudice.

J'abhorre la reine douairiere comme un monstre et je fuis pret a verser mon sang pour venger l'innocence de sa rivale. Je fouhaitte que cette petite brochure, dictée par la verité, penetre chés les nations etrangeres affin de rendre la reine douairiere execrable a la posterité la plus reculée, et la regence odieuse a tous ceux qui sont susceptibles de justice et d'humanité.

Le baron de Diede, ministre d'un roi, prisonier dans sa capitale, merite d'etre excepté du prejuge general contre les ministres de Julienne. Il a tous les qualites d'un grand ministre, les sentimens d'un homme d'honneur, et les vertus
d'un

I defy the queen dowager, though so great an hypocrite and dissembler, to prove the contrary of what I have advanced to her prejudice.

I abhor the queen dowager as a monster, and I am ready to shed my blood to avenge the innocence of her rival. I wish that this little piece, dictated by truth, may make its way into foreign nations, that the queen dowager may appear execrable in the eyes of the most remote posterity, and the regency odious to all who are susceptible of justice and humanity.

Baron Diede, minister from a king, a prisoner in his own capital, deserves to be excepted from the general prejudice against the ministers of Juliana. He professes all the qualities of a great minister, the sentiments of a man of honour,

L

d'un citoyen. Il n'a eu aucune part a cette revolution, et dans les circonstances critiques ou il se trouve actuellement il s'est comporté de façon a se faire respecter même d'une nation a present ennemie de la siene.

Si quelques raisons engagent l'Angleterre a suspendre l'effet de ses vengeance, ce sont les puissances qui épousent le parti de la douairiere.

La reine Matilde écrivit la lettre suivante, qui fut interceptée par l'officier de garde. Comme je n'entens pas l'Anglois j'en ai obtenu une traduction exacte.

“ Au chevalier Keith, envoyé de la Grande
Brétagne.

“ Depuis le premier jour de ma captivité

nor, and the virtues of a citizen: He had no part in this revolution, and in his present critical situation, he has behaved in a manner that makes him respected even by a nation at present at enmity with his.

If England should have any reasons for suspending the effect of her vengeance, they must arise from the dispositions of the powers who espouse the dowager's party.

Queen Matilda has written the following letter, which was intercepted by the officer of the guards. As I do not understand English, I have obtained a faithful translation of it.

“ To Sir Robert Keith, Envoy from
Great Britain.

“ From the first day of my captivity

L 2

I fore-

tivité, j'ai prévu que la rage de mes ennemis insisteroit sur la perte de ma liberté ou de ma vie. Je suis parfaitement resignée a l'une ou l'autre destinée. Mais l'idée de ma reputation fletrie et de mes chers enfans abandonnés a la mercy d'un peuple injustement prevenu contre la legitimité de leur naissance m'accable de la plus vive douleur. Le roi mon frere m'a t'il donc abandonné? grand Dieu, personne ne vengera t'il donc mon innocence et ma memoire? Je doute que mes impitoyables Argus laissent passer cette lettre ; encas que vous la receviés, continués de me rendre tous les bons offices dont vous êtes capable. Je n'oubliera jamais le zele que vous avés temoigné pour la cause de l'innocence, et si jamais le ciel me retablit dans le rang et la préeminence, dont j'ai été, si injustement

ment

I foresaw that the rage of my enemies would insist upon the loss of my liberty or my life. I am perfectly resigned to my fate either way. But the thought of my reputation being tarnished, and my dear children abandoned to the mercy of a people unjustly prejudiced against the legitimacy of their birth, overwhelms me with the most pungent grief. Has the king my brother then abandoned me? great God, will no one then avenge my innocence and my memory? I doubt whether my merciless Argus's will suffer this letter to reach you : in case you receive it, continue to do me all the good offices in your power. I shall never forget the zeal which you have testified in the cause of innocence, and if ever heaven should restore me to the rank and pre-eminence from which I have been

ment dégradée vous aurés des preuves plus certaines de ma reconnoissance. Que ne suis je en Angleterre ma chere patrie, ou le dernier des malheureux a le privilege detre jugé par ses pairs. Suis je donc oubliée, de tout l'univers? Mon embonpoint commence a diminuer, et ma santé est considerablement alterée, depuis que je suis renfermée dans ces murailles. Toutes les personnes qui sont au tour de moi me sont suspectes, et je desespere de jamais recouvrir ma liberté. Pour l'amour de Dieu tachés de me visiter; le tems approche ou l'on fera mon procès, mais ma sentence est deja determinée.

“ Je prie Dieu qu'il vous ait dans sa sainte garde,

A Cronenbourg,

Le 11 Avril, 1772.

MATILDE.”

Le

so unjustly degraded, you shall have more certain proofs of my gratitude. Oh! were I in England, my dear country, where the meanest criminal has the privilege of being tried by his peers. Am I forgot by the whole universe? I am greatly fallen away, and my health is much impaired, since I have been immured within these walls. There is not a single person about me whom I do not suspect, and I despair of ever recovering my liberty. For the love of God endeavour to visit me; the time approaches when my trial will take place, but my sentence is already determined.

“ I pray God he will take you under his holy protection.

Cronenburgh,

April 11, 1772.

MATILDA.”

The

Le ministre d'Angleterre a qui le roi son maitre a envoié l'ordre du bain ; comme une honorable recompence de son zele, et une marque d'approbation de sa conduite, a été par les conseils de Julianne exclus de la presence du roi. Mais elle n'a pas eu assés de credit pour empêcher le roi d'ordonner un bataillon pour la sureté de sa personne et la garde de sa maison. Le chevalier Keith a ses letters de rappel et les menaces de l'Angleterre, devenues serieuses par un armement formidable, ont forcé la regence de Danemarck, a consentir de livrer la jeune reine a ce ministre, qui doit l'accompagner dans l'electorat d'Hanovre, assigné par le roi son frere pour sa residence. Son procès est un tissu de contradictions, elle est declarée en même tems innocente et coupable

The English minister, whom the king his master has created knight of the Bath, as an honorable recompence for his zeal, and as a mark of approbation of his conduct, has, by the advice of Juliana, been excluded the king's presence ; but she has not had sufficient influence to prevent the king's ordering a batallion to attend him for the security of his person, and as a guard to his house. Sir R. Keith has received his letters of recall, and the menaces of England, which are become serious, as appears by a formidable naval armament, have compelled the regency of Denmark to consent to deliver the young queen to this minister, who is to accompany her into the electorate of Hanover, which is allotted her, by her royal brother, for her residence. Her trial is a tiffue of

M

con-

coupable. Quant au malheureux Struensee ou lui a annoncé qu'il devoit expier par une mort violente et douloureuse les crimes dont la reine douairiere est certainement coupable.

Enfin, tous les pretendus crimes de la jeune reine contre l'etat et le roi, malgré des temoins subornés sont destitués de preuves juridiques, pour la degrader de ses titres et des prerogatives de son rang. Le roi principalement interessé dans ce fameux procès, loin de l'accuser d'infidelité et d'autres crimes encore plus atroces, a déclaré plus d'une fois qu'elle étoit digne d'un époux, plus disposé qu'il n'avoit été a rendre justice a ses charmes et a ses vertus. L'aveu genereux de ses excés et de ses irregularités, justifie l'indifference et le degout qu'elle a de-

contradictions, she is at once declared innocent and guilty. As to the unfortunate Struensee, he has been acquainted he must expiate, by a shocking and violent death, the crimes of the queen dowager.

To conclude, all the supposed crimes of the young queen against the state and the king, notwithstanding the suborned evidences, are destitute of judicial proofs, to degrade her from her titles and the prerogatives of her rank. The king, who is chiefly interested in this famous prosecution, so far from accusing her of infidelity, and other crimes still more atrocious, has declared more than once, that she was worthy of a husband more disposed than himself to do justice to her charms and her virtues. The generous avowal of his excesses and irre-

a depuis long tems temoigné pour lui, Si depuis sa detention, elle eut pu obtenir une entrevue avec le roi, il n'est pas douteux qu'elle l'auroit forcé a lui faire la reparation due aux injures qu'elle a recües ; mais la douairiere a constamment empêché toute correspondance entre eux ; certaine que la jeune reine auroit bientôt recouvré sa liberté, et fait repentir ses ennemis de leurs injustices, si elle eut été confrontée devant le roi.

regularities, justify the indifference and disgust which she has a long time testified towards him. If she could, since her confinement, have obtained an interview with him, it is not to be doubted, that she would have compelled him to have made her due reparation for the injuries she has received ; but the dowager has constantly prevented all correspondence between them, being certain that the young queen would soon have recovered her liberty, and made her enemies repent of their injustice had she been confronted with the king.

APPENDIX by the ENGLISH EDITOR.

AS the foregoing piece was published in French at Hamburgh, previous to the fate of the counts Struensee and Brandt being known, the English editor thinks it necessary to lay before his readers what has since transpired, in order to render an account of the source and issue of this extraordinary transaction as complete as possible.

The grand commission passed sentence on these two unfortunate noblemen on the 25th of April ; their supposed crimes being first publicly declared in court, to the following effect. Count Struensee was pronounced guilty of having embezzled

bezzled from the king's coffers near six tons of gold, or 125,000 l. sterling; of having expedited many orders from the cabinet without the king's knowledge; of criminal conversation with the queen; of having secreted several letters that should have been laid before the king; with having counselled the king to disband his guards; of forging and falsifying a draught, and of suspicious arrangements in the city.

Count Brandt was declared guilty of having been privy to Struensee's criminal conversation, and all his other supposed crimes, without divulging them; and also of evil designs immediately agitated against the king's person.

Then the sentence was pronounced as follows :

“ John Frederic Struensee has (agree-
able

able to the Danish Statute law, book vi. chap. 4. art. 1.) for his crimes, forfeited his honour, estate, and life: his coat of arms shall be broken by the common hangman, then his right-hand shall be cut off, and afterwards his head; his body to be then quartered, and put on a wheel; his head and hand to be placed on a pole, and fixed over the gates."

A like sentence was passed on count Enevoldt Brandt.

In consequence of this rigid decree, they were executed on the 28th of the same month, at eight in the morning, before the east gate of the city of Copenhagen, in the center of a field, upon a scaffold erected for the purpose. Count Brandt suffered first, and behaved with great heroism, and almost unparalleled coolness. After his hand was cut off,
he

said with great composure, "This is a little painful, it must be owned." He, nevertheless, went through the remainder of his sentence with amazing intrepidity, made a speech to the by-standers, protesting his innocence, and declaring his accusers suborned and perjured. His head was then exposed various times to the view of a multitude of spectators. Count Brandt was attended by Mr. Hec, a protestant clergyman.

Count Struensee suffered with great reluctance; he remonstrated a long time to the clergyman who attended him, Dr. Munter, upon the hardness of his fate, and seemed still, for some time, in hopes of a reprieve, protesting to the last his innocence; but Dr. Munter pointing out to him, with much energy, his groundless hope, he then prayed very

N

fer-

fervently, but could not meet his fate with the fortitude of his fellow sufferer : after his hand was cut off, he started up, and was compelled by force to resume his seat. They were both gayly dressed, the one in green and gold, and the other in blue. The report of Brandt's having intreated the clergyman who administered the sacrament to him, to infuse poison in the cup, that he might avoid an ignominious and shocking death, is destitute of all foundation.

The remonstrances of Sir Robert Keith have had the desired effect in favour of the queen : she is allowed to take the air upon the ramparts of the castle of Cronenburgh, to see such company as she pleases, and the visits of the English minister at all times. He is to accompany her to Zell in Hanover, where

where she is to reside, at least for some years, upon a pension of five thousand pounds a-year ; and as Sir Robert has obtained the requested stipulations in favour of the queen, all thoughts of hostilities between the two kingdoms have subsided, and he will probably return to Copenhagen in a public character, after having visited England, and given a circumstantial account of this important transaction.

With regard to the report of the king of Denmark's marriage with a princess of Brandenburg-Schwetz, it is equally improbable and inconsistent with the present system of politics pursued at Copenhagen, as the queen dowager is certainly resolved, if possible, to place her son Frederic upon the throne, a project incompatible with any future marriage

of Christian VII. with a young princefs, who might give additional heirs to the direct line of fucceffion to the crown.

As to the young prince and princefs it is not improbable, that they may die of a diforder fimilar to that which carried off Peter the third of Ruffia.



F I N I S.

